

Safe Fencing Code for Kade



www.kadeskrusaders.org

Kade Damian 4/21/15
to 3/22/18

**CHANGE STARTS
WITH YOU**

Heartbreak to Advocacy



**I couldn't save
Kade, but I can
work to protect
others**

Julie Damian- Kade's Mother



Fence Dangers

ENTRAPMENT

Head & Neck trapped between exposed pickets

Animals have been trapped between the pickets at hips, head, shoulders.

IMPALEMENT & DECAPITATION

Fall onto exposed pickets

Loss of body parts



Why is Change Needed?

Fact: Kids like to climb



FENCES PROVIDE THE PERFECT
OPPORTUNITY AND CHALLENGE FOR
CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Local Code Change Examples:

City of Lakeway & Sun City in Georgetown, TX

FENCING

Safety is a primary concern in Lakeway. That includes fencing. Below is the section of our Ordinance pertaining to fencing standards.

According to Section 24.02.442 Fences

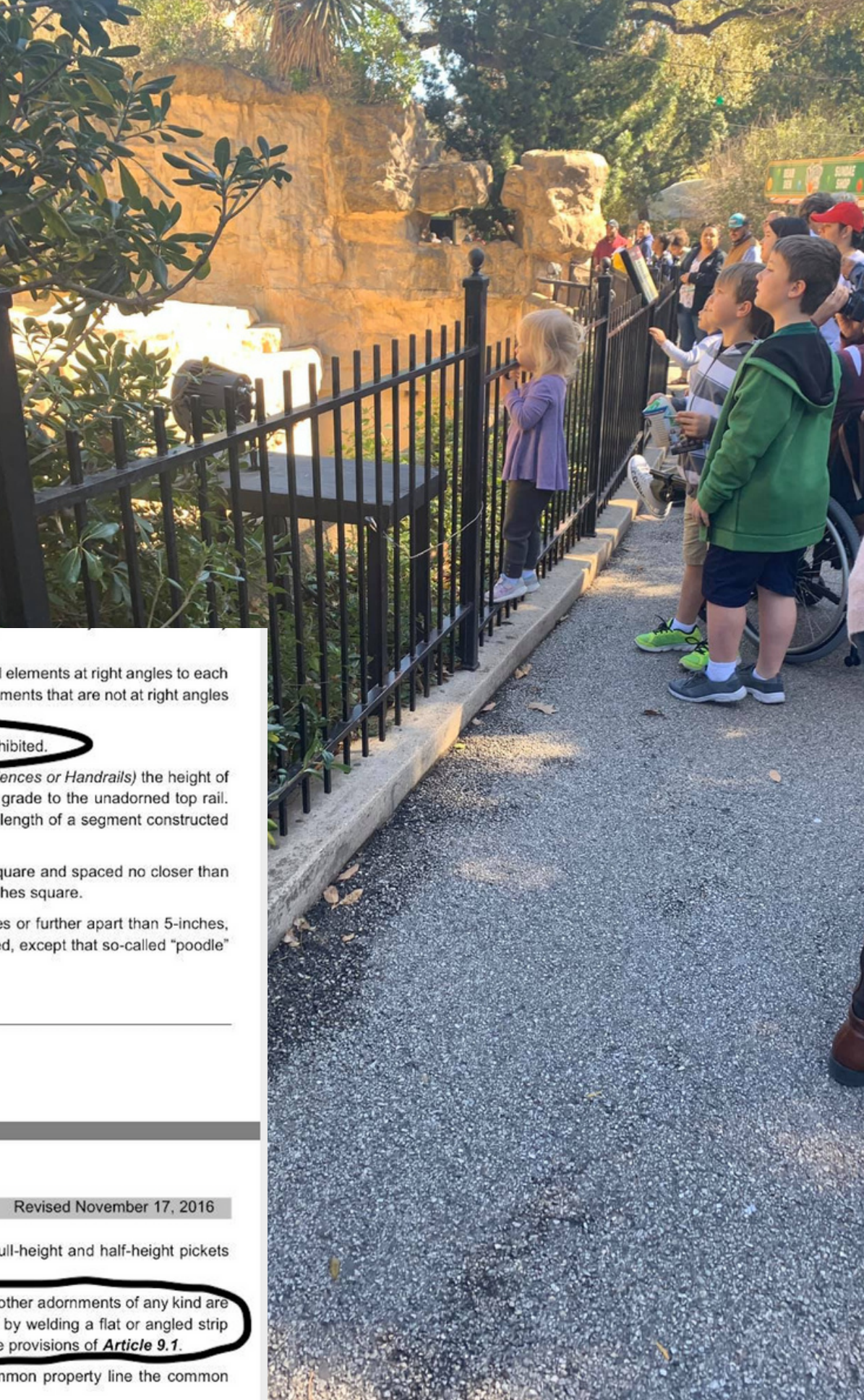
1. General Standards.

(13) All fences, including wood, wrought-iron, and ornamental fencing, shall be continuous flat-topped without spikes and sharp points.

Additional recommendation: For existing fencing with spikes or sharp points that you want to modify to be deer friendly, you may remove the sharp points at the top of the pickets and be sure to plug the holes to prevent additional hazards.

For more details on our ordinance pertaining to fencing, review Section 24.02.442 in our Code of Ordinances, which can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Here is an example of a flat-topped fence:



the Developer.

c) Design: Fence sections shall be made with horizontal and vertical elements at right angles to each other (forming a grid). Fences with scrolls, patterns or straight elements that are not at right angles to each other are prohibited.

Fences with spikes or other adornment above the top rail are prohibited.

e) Height: Except for fences described in Article 10.1.1 (On-Patio Fences or Handrails) the height of fences shall be 4-feet as measured from the developer finished grade to the unadorned top rail. However, the height of the fence may average 4.5-feet over the length of a segment constructed on sloping ground.

f) Pickets & Posts (Vertical Members): Pickets shall be 5/8-inch square and spaced no closer than 2½-inches, nor more than 5-inches apart. All posts shall be 2-inches square.

g) Spacing of Pickets: Pickets closer than the prescribed 2½-inches or further apart than 5-inches, whether for the full or ¼ height of the finished fence are prohibited, except that so-called "poodle"

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Sun City Texas Design Guidelines

Revised November 17, 2016

or "pet" fences that include an intermediate rail and alternating full-height and half-height pickets no closer than 2½-inches apart are permitted.

h) Top Rail of the Fence: Shall be a horizontal flat bar. Spikes and other adornments of any kind are prohibited. Fences initially installed with spikes may be modified by welding a flat or angled strip on the top of, or over the spikes, as long as this strip meets all the provisions of Article 9.1.

i) Fences along Property Lines: If a fence is to be built on a common property line the common sections of fence shall be shared; parallel fences are prohibited.

A simple wording change will save lives

Cost Involved

We have found that it does not cost the fence manufacturer any more to make an exposed picket fence panel vs. a flat topped one. There should be absolutely no increase cost to the consumer/Austin resident or builder.

Since the code change sought only effects fences moving forward, there is no cost to the City or residents for this change. When a fence needs replaced it would then be brought up to code, if necessary, with a flat topped design.



BEFORE & AFTER

DIY Repair at a Daycare

Citizen Video
Tutorial
about
modifying a
fence.

DIY

"You do not need to hire a fence expert unless you just want to. You can cut off the spikes with a sawzall and then plug the holes with plugs that are available from Amazon for \$40 per 100. It took me about 2 hours to cut 290 spikes."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cn5PDu2XjMs&feature=youtu.be>



The Work of a young Krusader in Maryland

Will worked to promote fence change in his own community in honor of Kade. He encouraged a major shopping center to change the fence and helped improve future shopping center safety in his area.

Want More Examples of Why Change is Needed?



<https://youtu.be/RHu78xjHF4c>

<https://youtu.be/PTUYaoFGU24>

<https://youtu.be/ndF2dabEa8U>



**PROTECT WILDLIFE, PETS,
& CHILDREN**



A Fence Should Protect



Exposed picket fencing has no place near playgrounds, parks, daycare centers, schools, in neighborhoods, and in other high traffic children and family areas. Safe fence options exist, this is not one of them.

**Fencing should
protect, not
endanger**



We live in a culture that clings to the "you can't tell me what to do" mentality. People tend toward preferring a hands-off government approach. Business will regulate itself.



However, when a fence manufacturer creates a board to review a product and measures children's neck sizes and heights then puts the product on the market without any warnings to the consumer, there is a problem. This is why government regulation is needed. Money speaks louder than morals & safety. The business knew the fence design was dangerous and said nothing!

<div>SEAT BELTS</div> <div>Required to wear one now in both the front and back seat of a car</div>	<div>CAR SEATS</div> <div>Mom doesn't just put a basket in the front seat anymore.</div>	<div>MOTOCYCLES</div> <div>Someone brought this one up. Yes, they are dangerous. However, an adult makes the informed decision to ride one. Warnings have been provided to the consumer</div>
<div>SMOKING</div> <div>Was common practice to smoke on an airplane, in a restaurant, hospital, school now that is not allowed</div>	<div>ABESTOS</div> <div>Was a common building material now illegal due to health concerns</div>	<div>LABOR LAWS & EPA</div> <div>Government stepped in to protect workers rights, children, and the environment</div>



THEY HAVE BEEN AROUND A LONG TIME

True, and on our website is an example of a girl named Sarah who died exactly like Kade but over 100 years ago. I can guarantee there are more examples, but the parents were too exhausted and heartbroken to pursue change.

MOVED FROM THE CITY OF BERNE. MR. STEURY WAS A GENEROUS MAN AND HELPED MUCH
IN GIVING AND HELPING THE NEEDY. THERE WAS GREAT SORROW WHEN PETER'S LITTLE TWO
YEAR OLD SARAH HAD BEEN STANDING ON A BOARD FENCE WATCHING THE HOGS, WHEN SHE
SLIPPED AND LOST HER FOOTHOLD, AND WAS FOUND HANGING BETWEEN TWO BOARDS,
DANGLING BY HER HEAD. MRS. STEURY CARRIED THE CHILD INTO THE HOUSE AND IN VAIN
TRIED TO REVIVE THE PRECIOUS GIRL AS SHE HELD HER IN HER LAP.

IT'S INTERESTING TO NOTE SOME FARM PRICES DURING THE FARM DAYS ON FARMERS

Kade is not the
only child to die

Words can and will protect the lives of those who can't speak for themselves. This code change is vital to the safety of children, pets, and wildlife. Protect the ones we love.



This change
does not cost a
thing.

